

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 8, 9, 14-16 and amend claim 1-7, 10, 12 and 13 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A joint for a panel, the joint comprising a first edge and a second edge whereby the first edge comprises a groove and the second edge is provided with a tongue wherein the second edge further comprises an upper side groove, ~~[[that]]~~ and a joining profile, the joining profile is provided with a tongue and an intermediate section, the joining profile being so configured so as to allow[ing] it to be located in the upper portion of the joint between two, joined, adjacent panels.

2. (Currently Amended) [A] The joint for a panel according to claim 1, [the joint comprising a first edge and a second edge whereby the first edge comprises a groove and the second edge is provided with a tongue] wherein the first edge further comprises an upper side groove [and the second edge comprises an upper side groove, that a] and the joining profile is further provided with a first and second snapping tongue [and an intermediate section], the joining profile being so configured so as to allow[ing] the first and second snapping tongue to be fitted into upper side grooves of two, joined, adjacent panels.

3. (Currently Amended) [A] The joint according to claim 2 wherein the joint further comprises the mating surfaces[that] wherein the joining profile and the upper sides grooves are so configured that a play is created in the joint between the mating surfaces

4. (Currently Amended) [A] The joint according to claim 3 wherein the play is in the range 0.05 - 1 mm.

5. (Currently Amended) [A] The joint according to claim 1 wherein the tongue and the groove are configured to limit the movement in a vertical direction between two adjacent panels.

6. (Currently Amended) [A] The joint according to claim 2 wherein the joining profile and the upper side grooves are configured to limit the movement in horizontal direction between two adjacent panels.

7. (Currently Amended) [A] The joint according to claim 2 wherein a portion arranged between the upper side groove and its respective distal edge portion comprises a recess.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) [A] The joint according to claim 2 wherein the first groove edge surface will create a pressure on an outer edge of the joining profile when two adjacent panels are forced together, the pressure causing the intermediate section to be urged downwards.

11. (Previously Presented) A joint according to claim 10 wherein a portion arranged between the upper side groove and its respective distal edge portion comprises a recess, the recess being adapted to receive the lower portion of the intermediate section when being urged downwards.

12. (Currently Amended) [A] The joint according to claim 2 wherein the upper side groove is provided with a first groove edge surface and a second groove edge surface, and between the first and second groove edge surfaces a predetermined distance is present, the distance being so configured that the snapping tongue may be pressed in between the first and second groove edge surfaces.

13. (Currently Amended) [A] joint according to claim 12 wherein the first and second groove edge surfaces are arranged so that an undercut is present, that the snapping tongue of the joining profile is [adapted] configured with respect to the undercut so that a snap action locking effect is achieved.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)